

In the Abstract:

Page 22, please make the following changes in the abstract:

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

The present invention has for an object an agent for dyeing hair which contains at least one vat dye reduced by a compound which in an alkaline medium forms an enediol, said agent having a pH of 4 to 11, as well as a method for dyeing hair by use of said agent at a physiologically tolerable pH followed by reoxidation of the vat dye[.]

The agent for dyeing hair has a pH of 4 to 11 and contains a reduced vat dye,
which is obtained by reducing a vat dye, such as an anthrquinonoid dye, with a
reducing agent compound that forms an enediol in an alkaline medium,
preferably acetoin, monohydroxyacetone, and dihydroxyacetone. The method of
dyeing hair includes pre-reducing the vat dye with the reducing agent compound at
a pH of from 10 to 13 to form the reduced vat dye, providing an agent for dyeing the
hair having a pH of from 4 to 11 and containing the reduced vat dye, allowing the
agent to act on the hair while protecting the reduced vat dye in the agent from
atmospheric oxygen, and then re-oxidizing with atmospheric oxygen or an oxidant.